

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on October 5, 2004. In the Office Action, claim 3 was objected to and claims 1, 11, 17 and 18 were rejected. Claims 3-10, 12-16 and 19-21 were stated to contain allowable subject matter. With this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 11, 13, 17 and 20 are amended. Claims 3, 12, 18 and 19 are canceled. Claims 1, 4-11, 13-17, 20 and 21 are presented for reconsideration and allowance.

In the Office Action, claim 3 was objected to as being of improper dependent form. With this Amendment, claim 3 is canceled.


Also in the Office Action, claims 1, 11, 17 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,084,535 to Karabed et al. With this Amendment, claim 18 is canceled, and each of independent claims 1, 11 and 17 is amended to include limitations from a claim indicated in the Office Action to contain allowable subject matter. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to include limitations from original claim 3, and original claim 3 is now canceled. Claim 11 is amended to include limitations from original claim 12, and original claim 12 is now canceled. Claim 17 is amended to include limitations from original claims 18 and 19, and claims 18 and 19 are now canceled. Therefore, all of the remaining claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

The Director is authorized to charge any fee deficiency required by this paper or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 23-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

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